

**Management Training and Economics Education Project for Central  
and Eastern Europe  
Project No. 180-0029**

**Monitoring and Evaluation Contract  
Contract No. DHR-0029-C-00-5059-00**

**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - JANUARY 1996**

**28 February 1996**

Submitted to:

Office of Human Resources (ENI/HR/TE)  
Bureau for Europe and the New Independent States  
U.S. Agency for International Development  
Washington, D.C. 20523

Submitted by:

Datex, Inc.  
2101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 100  
Arlington, VA 22201

## **MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - JANUARY 1996**

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

The Management Training and Economics Education Project (MTEEP) is based on using institution-to-institution linkages to undertake short term, high impact training while simultaneously upgrading Central European institutions for long term economics education. The Project was initially approved in 1990, and is expected to continue through 30 June 1999. The purpose of this monitoring & evaluation contract is to provide technical assistance for formative monitoring and summative expert evaluation of MTEEP. Currently there are twelve active grants to U.S. universities working with partner institutions in nine Central and Eastern European countries which are covered by these services. The contract was signed in July 1995. This is the sixth monthly report of activities.

### **B. OVERALL ACTIVITY STATUS**

The first semi-annual formative monitoring and evaluation report was submitted to the USAID Project Officer. It was submitted as a final draft at his request, to allow review before distributing it. In its development, updated training data was obtained from grantees, especially for the first three quarters of 1995. In addition, all project directors completed questionnaires assessing their local partners to provide supplementary baseline information. Drafts of each project sections (which incorporated site visit reports) were sent to grantees for review of accuracy.

In spite of the inclement weather and government shutdown, one electronic newsbrief (#7) was distributed. The December progress/financial reports were submitted to USAID, as was the second quarterly report covering the period from October-December 1995.

The Proceedings from the Project Directors' Meeting were completed and prepared for review by USAID before distribution.

### **C. GRANTEE UPDATES**

#### **Central Connecticut State University - Poland**

CCSU has a new project director - Elizabeth Wasitynski. We talked with her during the month regarding scheduling concerns for the spring site visits and project directors' meeting. Evidently, there will be elections throughout Poland for Rectors during the month of April. We received CCSO's 4Q95 report covering the period from October-December 1995.

#### **Indiana University - Hungary**

We spoke with Bruce Jaffee at length about the draft section on the IU project in the formative report. There was no resistance, and in fact there was a lot of activity by IU to develop plans to make improvements immediately. The current status is that only one program has taken place. The IU team knows that we are concerned and that we have made, and will continue to offer, suggestions. They

have responded positively to those suggestions.

**SUNY/OIP - Hungary**

We spoke with Ron Oppen about the draft findings contained in the formative report. His staff sent some text back to assist in our description of USAID/Hungary's goals and how the SUNY and IU programs fit in. Ron is anxious about the dates for the meeting this spring as he would like to get his calendar set.

**SUNY/Buffalo - Latvia**

We got some very good input from John Bloss as we put together the draft section on the Latvia program. John expressed concern at having to gather enrollment data late in the process, a situation which should be alleviated in the future with the institution of the M&E reporting systems. In the mean time, the relationship between the Latvia project and the evaluation team seems sound. They await our visit this spring.

**Texas A&M International University - Lithuania**

TAMIU has a new project director and assistant: Dr. W. Larry Boyd (who attended the Project Directors' Meeting) and Phillip Lane. Dr. Robert Vichas remains the in-country coordinator. We have been asked to copy the US office on all correspondence to Lithuania, and where possible, to channel communication through the US office. The in-country director has asked us to try to resend the newsbriefs as he hadn't successfully received most of them yet. That request was handled by the DC office. Both the US and Lithuania staff read the draft section of the formative report on TAMIU and sent back suggestions. Most notably, the in-country director asked that we distinguish his efforts from those of the US project director.

**University of Delaware - Bulgaria**

The UDEL staff provided input to confirm the chronology of events as we worked on their section of the draft report. No substantive comments were received on the draft section of the formative report, except for a question as to whether proposed indicators would be revised to reflect whatever USAID/Bulgaria might adopt as part of the current planning exercise in the mission. Stan Shumway has relocated to Bulgaria. Brad Davis is now the US contact working with project director, Larry Donnelley.

**University of Maryland - Poland**

We sent copies of the draft findings to be included in the formative report to both the US project director and the in-country director. Neither had any major changes to make and the in-country director seemed appreciative of the recommendations we made regarding the local institution's lack of implementation.

**University of Minnesota - Poland**

We sent the draft findings to Randy Zimmermann and the project director. We heard back only from Randy and his comments were positive -- nothing of substance.

**University of Nebraska/Lincoln - Albania**

Comments were received from Dr. Sang Lee, Project Director, on a preliminary site visit report and then the draft section of the formative report that included the site visit information. Because there had been significant activity related to the project since December, he suggested that a number of changes be made to increase the relevance of the report. He also provided training participation data for the first three quarters of 1995.

Since the site visit, the University of Tirana's Dean of the Faculty of Economics has agreed to the UNL description of the introduction of the MBA program to the degree necessary to allow the program to go forward. Bridge money has been received through March 1996 to allow time for the updated two year project proposal to be reviewed and a PIOT developed and signed. The UNL in-country coordinator returned to Albania in January and is expected to continue with the implementation of the ongoing project.

The UNL quarterly report for the period October-December 1995 was received.

**University of Pittsburgh - Slovakia and Czech Republic**

We heard back from Andrew Blair, the CMC project director, with a few comments on the draft, specifically that he had visited the U.S. School of Business, so we included that information in our report. We have been in close contact with Patrik Uram at CMC to obtain bids and availability information for the upcoming project directors' meeting this spring. He has been very prompt and helpful in returning information to us.

There was no response from the CERGE side of the house regarding our findings, however, the in-country assistant, Mike Jetton, has been most helpful in collating enrollment figures for us to include in the report.

**Washington State University - Romania**

The in-country coordinator, Brett Rogers, responded to the draft report, acknowledging it reflected what had been discussed in the site visit. In addition, he gave preliminary concurrence with the proposed indicators, pending a review by Bob Tolar. The US office provided data on participation numbers in their various activities.

The October-December 1995 quarterly report was received.

**D. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/ACTIONS TAKEN**

January was a difficult month in Washington because of severe weather conditions that closed offices several times during the month. In addition, the government shutdown continued into the month. In general, however, all continues to move reasonable well.

**E. CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Activities continue generally on schedule.

**F. PLANS FOR FEBRUARY, 1996**

- Initiate plans for annual project directors' meeting; determine site/dates for the meeting
- Project Director communications
- Electronic newsbriefs distributed
- Monthly progress/financial reports to USAID